UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8



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October 21, 2015

Ref: 8P-AR

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Record of Communication – meeting with Uinta Basin County Commissioners and others

FROM: Jody Ostendorf

Air Program

TO: U&O FIP docket

This memorandum is to serve as a record of communication for a meeting that occurred between the Uinta Basin County Commissioners and others and US EPA Region 8 on October 21, 2015, from 10-11 a.m.

Attendees:

EPA Carl Daly, Air Program Director

Deirdre Rothery, Air Program Monica Morales, Air Program Cindy Beeler, Energy Advisor Claudia Smith, Air Program Jody Ostendorf, Air Program Chris Dresser, Air Program Chris Stoneman, OAQPS

UDAQ Brock LeBaron, Division of Air Quality

Sheila Vance, Division of Air Quality

<u>Uinta Basin County</u> Mike McKee, Uintah County Commissioners Ron Winterton, Uintah County

> Bill Stringer, Uintah County Mike McKee, Uintah County Greg Todd, Duchesne County Mike Hyde, Duchesne County Ken Burdick, Duchesne County

Others

Jon Stearmer, Uintah County Attorney Scott Sweat, Heber City Attorney Seth Lyman, Utah State University John Andrews, Utah Attorney General's office

Summary of Meeting

The purpose of this meeting was to provide information and gain input from the County Commissioners and others on current and planned regulation of existing oil and gas production sources in the Uinta Basin.

EPA provided a brief summary of proposed oil and gas-related national rulemakings that were signed on August 18, 2015: Methane/VOC regulatory updates, the tribal NSR FIP and the definition of source.

EPA discussed approaches for controlling existing sources in Indian Country based on EPA's Tribal Authority Rule (TAR) and the proposed national tribal NSR FIP. The TAR states that, if necessary and appropriate, EPA may issue a site-specific FIP for tribal lands at risk of becoming nonattainment. The proposed Tribal NSR FIP states that "EPA's plan is to address existing sources, to the extent necessary, in the context of area- or reservation-specific FIPS designed address areas or reservations with air quality issues (including nonattainment areas), as they arise, that are associated with oil and natural gas activities."

EPA also presented our understanding of the Oil and Gas Universe in the Uinta Basin, including air quality metrics, oil and gas production data, emissions data, tribal minor source registrations data and data gaps.

The County Commissioners raised concerns about the impact of the FIP on economic development during this time of declining production, with more wells being shut in than new wells being drilled.